

# **MINUTES**

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA www.mississauga.ca

# **TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2009 - 9:08 AM**

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE 300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1

PRESENT: Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (Chair)

Councillor Carmen Corbasson, Ward 1

Michael DeWit, Citizen Member (Vice-Chair) Sophia Chalaidopoulos, Citizen Member

Peter Orphanos, Citizen Member

Dr. Brad Bass, Geography Dept., University of Toronto in Mississauga Deyana Sameh, Representative, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA)

Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager, Environmental Management

Andrea J. McLeod, Environmental Coordinator Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant

John Calvert, Director, Policy Planning

Mary Bracken, Environmental Planner, Policy Planning Division Karin Ann Brent, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

ABSENT: Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 6

Hassaan Basit, Citizen Member Kartik Sahay, Citizen Member

GUESTS: Rae Horst, Chief Administrative Officer, Credit Valley Conservation

John Kinkead, Director, Water Resources, Credit Valley Conservation Judy Orendorff, Natural Heritage and Lands, Credit Valley Conservation

Phil James, Planner, Credit Valley Conservation

Paul O'Hara, Consultant, Blue Oak Native Landscaping

Jennifer Bergsma, Supervisor, Laboratory Services, Vale Inco Limited

#### INDEX – ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE – JUNE 2, 2009

#### CALL TO ORDER

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

#### DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST

#### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(s)

- April 7, 2009

# **DEPUTATIONS**

- A Credit River Watershed Management Study Update Watershed Studies
- B Mississauga's Natural Areas System
- C Regional Official Plan Amendment 22 (ROPA 22): Transportation Policies by Paulina Mikicich, Planner, City-Wide Planning, Planning and Building Department see Item 2.2

#### **MATTERS CONSIDERED**

- 1. <u>Business Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)</u>
  - 1. Light Pollution Abatement
  - 2. Information: Native vs. Non-Native Tree Species
  - 3. Naturalization of Public and Private Property

### 2. <u>New Business</u>

- 1. Lakeside Park Redevelopment (Ward 2)
- 2. Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 22 (ROPA 22): Transportation Policies
- 3. Information Items

# OTHER BUSINESS

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE(s)**

# **ADJOURNMENT**

#### CALL TO ORDER – 9:08am

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves.

#### DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

# MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(s)

- April 7, 2009

Adopted as Presented (Councillor Carmen Corbasson)
MG.31

#### **DEPUTATIONS**

# A Credit River Watershed Management Study Update – Watershed Studies

John Kinkead, Director of Water Resources, Credit Valley Conservation gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Credit River Watershed Management Study update. Further, Mr. Kinkead provided information regarding the landscape applications at the Vale Inco. property in the Sheridan business park near the Sheridan Creek watershed, in regard to the naturalization of that site. Paul O'Hara of Blue Oak Native Landscaping advised that he is the lead consultant on Vale Inco.'s property landscape project, and reviewed photographs of various applications of native species being applied to the Vale Inco.'s site. Mr. Kinkead referenced the new Mississauga Strategic Plan and concluded his presentation suggesting that by-law amendments be done to allow site development with naturalized landscaping, and requested that this Committee express its support of natural landscaping.

Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopoulos initiated discussion, advising her support of the subject initiative and expressed her congratulations.

Vice-Chair Michael DeWit referenced the Provincial legislation regarding weeds and suggested that Mr. Kinkead also petition the Province for any required exemptions. Mr. Kinkead advised that CVC staff have consulted with Provincial staff.

Citizen Member Peter Orphanos opined that the subject project is a good model for other property owners that want to naturalize their properties. Dr. Bass re-iterated this opinion and referenced a naturalization project in North York, Ontario and suggested that a reduction in maintenance costs could result from the reduction of the lawn area that requires mowing, and current and future maintenance costs need to be documented to determine any related savings.

<u>DEPUTATION A Credit River Watershed Management Study Update – Watershed Studies</u> cont'd...

Further, Dr. Bass questioned whether trees will be planted in the vicinity of the buildings to provide shade cover and protection from the wind, to which Mr. O'Hara explained that the proposed tree planting would be done in an area that is currently covered with turf. Dr. Bass suggested that planting should be done to maximize the meadow areas to retain ground water and reduce the need for irrigation.

Chairman Councillor George Carlson advised his support of the subject project and requested permission to share the subject information with other property owners.

At the suggestion of Chairman Councillor George Carlson, Committee concurred to bring Item #3 of this agenda forward for consideration of staff's comments about naturalization of public and private property, in conjunction with the information provided in the subject deputation.

Subsequently, Citizen Member Peter Orphanos moved that, to encourage the expansion of the City's tree canopy, greater plant diversity, and the enhancement and expansion of the Natural Heritage System within Mississauga, City staff, under the direction of the Leadership Team and in consultation with the Conservation Authorities, be directed to review the City's By-laws and policies for amendments that will promote and encourage the naturalization of private and public lands in the City of Mississauga.

Received for Information / Directive (Peter Orphanos) Recommendation EAC-0022-2009 EC.10. Natural Areas Survey

#### B Mississauga's Natural Areas System

Rae Horst, Chief Administrative Officer, Credit Valley Conservation gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Mississauga's Natural Areas System, noting that Council has requested the existing natural areas be protected. Further, Mrs. Horst noted that the Federal government recommends a level of natural areas at thirty (30%) percent; however that percentage is not a viable target for large urban cities such as Mississauga.

Mrs. Horst reviewed a map which indicates proposed linkages of the natural areas in Mississauga noting that widening of the natural corridors in Mississauga could provide an increase to fourteen (14%) percent. Further, Mrs. Horst noted that CVC is currently doing a study for environmental needs which indicates the need to widen the east/west and north/south natural area corridors in Mississauga, which might require some land acquisition. It was noted that the habitats in the natural areas located along the Credit River and other creeks in Mississauga can be protected through the Credit Valley Conservation's jurisdiction. Mrs. Horst explained the loss of natural area in Mississauga as a result of development is addressed the annual Natural Areas Surveys, and that the Credit Valley Conservation acts as a consultant for the City of Mississauga in its review of development applications.

# <u>DEPUTATION B Mississauga's Natural Areas System</u> cont'd...

The Mississauga Official Plan was referenced and Mrs. Horst spoke to issues related to the policies that address development impact on the existing natural areas. Mrs. Horst introduced Judy Orendorff who is the head of natural heritage and lands with the Credit Valley Conservation authority, and explained that open space land is not the same as having conservation land, noting that the 2008 Natural Areas Survey finds that six (6) woodland communities and one (1) "successional" community are currently at risk. Mrs. Horst concluded her deputation reviewing the Credit Valley Conservation's recommendations for protection of the existing significant Natural Areas in Mississauga, noting that CVC feels that fourteen (14%) percent is achievable.

Citizen Member Peter Orphanos initiated discussion opining that fourteen (14%) percent natural area is reasonable, and suggested that thirty (30%) percent can be achieved. Further, Mr. Orphanos advised that he would like to see a resurgence of plant life and fish along the shores of Lake Ontario. Chairman Councillor Carlson confirmed with staff that the natural areas depicted on the maps shown at this meeting are on both private and public lands. Vice-Chair Michael DeWit suggested that mapping be done of all un-developed land that could be left in a naturalized state. During discussion, Dr. Brad Bass suggested that the school boards be approached for naturalizing school sites, and Michael DeWit referenced the hydro corridors as an example of areas that can be retained for natural habitat. Citizen Member Sophia Chalaidopoulos suggested that natural area might be achieved through the City partnering with the land owners rather than expending funds for land acquisition. Mrs. Horst explained that the CVC wants the support of Mississauga's Environmental Advisory Committee and the Environmental Management and Planning staff, of its efforts to increase Mississauga's natural areas system.

Councillor Carlson suggested that public outreach is required to achieve cooperation by local land owners to retain green cover and foliage to create natural area in the City. As well, Dr. Brad Bass referenced his suggestion made at the April 2008 of this Committee, for ways to reduce pave area in the City. Director of Policy Planning John Calvert advised that staff will review and respond back to Committee.

Ms. Orendorff explained the work on natural area modelling being done by the Credit Valley Conservation. Vice-Chair Mike DeWit suggested that a map be created to show the existing natural areas and the potential areas for an increase to fourteen (14%) percent and also a thirty (30%) percent coverage.

Subsequently, Ms. Orendorff invited the Members of this Committee Members to attend the Credit Valley Conservation's stakeholder meeting scheduled for 6:00pm on June 11, 2009.

# <u>DEPUTATION B Mississauga's Natural Areas System</u> cont'd...

Subsequently, Citizen Member Peter Orphanos moved receipt of the subject deputation and further, that Mississauga City Council be advised that the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) strongly supports the Credit Valley Conservation authority's verbal report and suggestions presented at the EAC meeting on June 2, 2009 regarding Mississauga's Natural Areas system, and recommends that staff be directed to follow up with the Credit Valley Conservation staff to identify opportunities to increase the percentage of natural area throughout the City of Mississauga, and report back to EAC on a regular basis regarding progress. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Received for Information / Directive (Peter Orphanos) Recommendation EAC-0023-2009 EC.10.Natural Areas Survey

#### **DEPUTATION C**

Regional Official Plan Amendment 22 (ROPA 22): Transportation Policies by Paulina Mikicich, Planner, City-Wide Planning, Planning and Building Department see Item 2.2

# MATTERS CONSIDERED

- 1. <u>Business Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)</u>
  - 1. <u>Light Pollution Abatement</u>

A Corporate Report dated May 26, 2009 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works was presented in response to a deputation regarding Light Pollution Abatement by Randy Attwood – President of the Mississauga Centre Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, to the Environmental Advisory Committee at its meeting on June 3, 2008. (EAC-0034-2008)

#### Recommendation:

- 1. That the Corporate Report dated May 26, 2009 to the Environmental Advisory Committee from the Transportation and Works Department regarding Light Pollution Abatement be forwarded to General Committee for approval.
- 2. That the Transportation and Works Department in conjunction with Enersource, develop a pilot project on the use of induction and light emitting diode (LED) streetlight technology and report back to General Committee on the pilot project implementation details.

Received for Information (Vice-Chair Michael DeWit) Recommendation EAC-0024-2009 EC.19

# 1. <u>Business Arising From Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)</u> cont'd...

# 2. Information: Native vs. Non-Native Tree Species

A Memorandum dated June 2, 2009 from Edward Nicolucci, Acting Manager of Environmental Management, Recreation and Parks Division of the Community Services Department, was provided in response to a request recorded in Recommendation EAC-0004-2009 (GC-0057-2009) issued at the February 3, 2009 meeting of this Committee.

<u>Received for Information</u> (Councillor Carmen Corbasson) EC.12

# 3. Naturalization of Public and Private Property

A Memorandum dated May 22, 2009 from Andy Wickens, Manager of Parks and Forestry, Recreation and Parks Division of the Community Services Department, was provided in response to a request raised in discussion about natural areas by this Committee at its meeting on April 7, 2009. This information relates to the issues addressed in the deputation by John Kinkead, Director of Water Resources with the Credit Valley Conservation regarding the Credit River Watershed Management Study update, including the landscape applications at the Vale Inco property located in the Sheridan business park near the Sheridan Creek watershed.

#### Recommendation:

That, to encourage the expansion of the City's tree canopy, greater plant diversity, and the enhancement and expansion of the Natural Heritage System within Mississauga, City staff, under the direction of the Leadership Team and in consultation with the Conservation Authorities, be directed to review the City's By-laws and policies for amendments that will promote and encourage the naturalization of private and public lands in the City of Mississauga.

<u>Approved</u> (Peter Orphanos) (see Recommendation EAC-0022-2009) EC.10.Natural Areas Survey

#### 2. New Business

# 1. <u>Lakeside Park Redevelopment (Ward 2)</u>

A copy of the concept plan and recommendations for Lakeside Park put forward in the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy approved by Council on March 2008, was provided for information.

<u>Received for Information</u> (Councillor Carmen Corbasson) CD.10.Lakeside Park

# 2. New Business cont'd...

# 2. Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 22 (ROPA 22): Transportation Policies

A Memorandum dated May 27, 2009 from John Calvert, Director of Policy Planning, Planning and Building Department presenting the Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 22 regarding Transportation Policies, was presented for discussion and comments of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

<u>Paulina Mikicich, Planner, City-Wide Planning, Planning and Building Department</u> gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding Region of Peel Official Plan Amendment 22 (ROPA 22) Transportation Policies.

Citizen Member Peter Orphanos opined that there is a need for the Region of Peel to change its priority and funding allocation to allow implementation of innovative changes and encourage eco-friendly modes of transportation similar to that being done in other parts of the world, such as reduced road widths and traffic lane sizes.

Subsequently, the subject deputation and Memorandum were received for information.

<u>Received for Information</u> (Peter Orphanos) LA.09.Region of Peel

# 3. Information Items

Councillor Carmen Corbasson moved receipt of the following items for information:

- 1. A copy of the Agenda for the Smog Summit and Best Practices Exchange scheduled for June 3, 2009 in Toronto, Ontario (including the Smog Summit Memorial in memory of the late City of Mississauga employee Brenda Sakauye for her work with environmental issues).
- Copy of the letter dated March 4, 2009 addressed to Mayor McCallion from the Minister of Natural Resources, in response to Mississauga City Council's support of Credit Valley Conservation's Resolution regarding increased funding. (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)
- 3. Copy of a communication dated March 9, 2009 from the Municipality of Grey Highlands regarding their concern that the removal of local land use planning controls for renewable energy facilities will have detrimental effect on the municipality. (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)
- 4. Copy of an email dated March 10, 2009 from John Ford to Mayor McCallion requesting expansion of the City's involvement or a partnership with Bullfrog Power as a positive influence on the environment.

  (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)

#### 3. Information Items cont'd...

5. A copy of a Member Communication dated March 9, 2009 from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) regarding the *Pesticides Ban Act* which took effect April 22, 2009, prohibiting the sale and use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on lawns and gardens, parks and school yards.

Also, a copy of the letter dated March 12, 2009 from the Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment in response to the Mayor McCallion's letter dated January 29, 2009 relaying Mississauga Environmental Advisory Committee's recommendations regarding the subject pesticides ban.

(Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)

6. A copy of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) letter dated March 13, 2009 about its Resolution #A6/09 passed on February 27, 2009, certifying the TRCA administration offices as 'EcoOffices'.

(Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)

7. A copy of the Memorandum dated March 16, 2009 from the Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment, regarding an update on recent developments to protect the waters of the Great Lakes through the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement.

(Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)

- 8. A copy of the Communication dated March 17, 2009 from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) stating that the federal government is moving forward with a two-year rule change for environmental assessments (EA) for projects that have completed provincial and municipal environmental approvals. (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)
- 9. A copy of the letter dated March 26, 2009 the Honourable George Smitherman, Deputy Premier and Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, regarding his vision for a greener and more prosperous future in the Greater Golden Horseshoe area of Ontario through public infrastructure projects with the municipalities, at the Places to Grow summit held on November 5, 2008.

(Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 8, 2009)

10. A copy of the Member Communication dated April 9, 2009 from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) issuing their Alert (09/018) from March 25<sup>th</sup> presenting a summary of the position endorsed by the AMO Board of Directors on April 3, 2009, regarding Bill 150 – the *Green Energy and Green Economy Act* currently before the Standing Committee on General Government.

(Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 22, 2009)

#### 3. Information Items cont'd...

- 11. A copy of a Communication dated January 20, 2009 from the Ontario Municipal Board regarding the consultation period for the *Waste Diversion Act* paper that was extended to April 1, 2009, and a copy of the Region of Peel Corporate Report dated February 18, 2009 to its Waste Management Subcommittee containing comments on the proposed Waste Diversion At and the Blue Box Program which were submitted to the Minister of the Environment and Waste Diversion Ontario.
  - (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on April 22, 2009)
- 12. A copy of an information piece from Ontario Municipal Knowledge Network regarding Energy Efficiency Solutions for Municipalities, announcing the Used Tire Program to be implemented on September 1, 2009. (Received for information by Mississauga City Council on May 13, 2009)
- 13. An extract of Recommendation GC-0378-2009 adopted by Council on May 27, 2009 and a copy of the Corporate Report dated May 6, 2009 to General Committee, regarding the Employee Discount Transit Program with Smart Commute Mississauga to be implemented for an eighteen (18) month pilot project.
- 14. A letter dated May 20, 2009 from Jim Mulvale Manager, Environment, Health and Safety Northland Power Inc. announcing a 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Open House for the environmental screening of the Royal Windsor Energy Centre, scheduled for 4:pm to 9:pm on Thursday, June 11, 2009.
- 15. A copy of the announcement of a new internal corporate initiative launched by the City of Mississauga in February 2009 through which water for meetings will be served in pitchers instead of plastic water bottles.
- 16. Information from the Clean Air Foundation about the Now Down Pollution program through which to recycle old lawn mowers and encourage the use of manual equipment, the Retire Your Ride program for recycling old vehicles, the Green Paperclip Challenge for obtaining supplies and equipment for the inaugural Habitat for Humanity project in the Streetsville area.
- 17. A copy of an email dated June 1, 2009 from resident Nav Mundi following up on his deputation to the Environmental Advisory Committee on April 7, 2009.
- 18. A copy of a written submission titled "Slow the Mow" from resident Greg LeBreton providing his opinion on the benefits of increasing naturalized areas in Mississauga.

Received for Information MG.31.Information Items

#### OTHER BUSINESS

# 1. <u>Tour of Mississauga – Cities Alive Conference</u>

Dr. Brad Bass provided information regarding participation with the 2009 Cities Alive Conference. Subsequently, Vice-Chair Michael DeWit moved that staff consult with Dr. Brad Bass of the University of Toronto to review the feasibility of the City of Mississauga Environmental Advisory Committee hosting a bus tour on October 21, 2009 to show the delegates of the 2009 Cities Alive! World Green Infrastructure Congress the various green infrastructure sites in Mississauga, and report back to Council for approval at its meeting scheduled for August 5, 2009. The motion was voted upon and carried.

<u>Directive</u> (Michael DeWit) Recommendation EAC-0025-2009 PR.01

# **NEXT MEETING DATE(s)**

Committee requested that the meeting of this Committee in September 2009 be scheduled for date after the Labour Day weekend.

MG.31

ADJOURNMENT – 10:38am

### REPORT 4-2009

#### TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

The Mississauga Environmental Advisory Committee presents its fourth report of 2009, and recommends:

#### EAC-0022-2009

- 1. That the deputation to the Environmental Advisory Committee at its meeting on June 2, 2009 regarding the Credit River Watershed Management Study Update Watershed Studies by John Kinkead, Director of Water Resources, Credit Valley Conservation and Paul O'Hara of Blue Oak Native Landscape, as well as the Memorandum dated May 22, 2009 from Andy Wickens, Manager of Parks and Forestry, Recreation and Parks Division of the Community Services Department in response to a request raised in discussion about natural areas by this Committee at its meeting on April 7, 2009, be received for information.
- 2. That, to encourage the expansion of the City's tree canopy, greater plant diversity, and the enhancement and expansion of the Natural Heritage System within Mississauga, City staff, under the direction of the Leadership Team and in consultation with the Conservation Authorities, be directed to review the City's By-laws and policies for amendments that will promote and encourage the naturalization of private and public lands in the City of Mississauga.

EC.10.Natural Areas Survey (EAC-0022-2009)

# EAC-0023-2009

- 1. That the deputation to the Environmental Advisory Committee at its meeting on June 2, 2009 regarding the current status of Mississauga's Natural Areas System by Rae Horst, Chief Administrative Officer of the Credit Valley Conservation authority, be received for information.
- 2. That Council be advised that the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) strongly supports the Credit Valley Conservation authority's verbal report and suggestions presented at the EAC meeting on June 2, 2009, regarding Mississauga's Natural Areas system, and recommends that staff be directed to follow up with the Credit Valley Conservation staff to identify opportunities to increase the percentage of natural area throughout the City of Mississauga, and report back to EAC on a regular basis regarding progress.

EC.10.Natural Areas Survey (EAC-0023-2009)

#### EAC-0024-2009

That the Corporate Report dated May 26, 2009 to the Environmental Advisory Committee from the Transportation and Works Department regarding Light Pollution Abatement be forwarded to General Committee for approval of the recommendation the Transportation and Works Department in conjunction with Enersource, develop a pilot project on the use of induction and light emitting diode (LED) streetlight technology and report back to General Committee on the pilot project implementation details.

EC.19

(EAC-0024-2009)

#### EAC-0025-2009

That staff consult with Dr. Brad Bass of the University of Toronto to review the feasibility of the City of Mississauga Environmental Advisory Committee hosting a bus tour on October 21, 2009 to show the delegates of the 2009 Cities Alive! World Green Infrastructure Congress the various green infrastructure sites in Mississauga, and report back to Council for approval at its meeting scheduled for August 5, 2009.

PR.01

(EAC-0025-2009)